



Bellevue Way SE Southbound HOV Lane

Open House Public Feedback: Executive Summary – June / July 2016

Summary

An in-person and online open house was held to inform design options development for the Bellevue Way HOV Project. The focus was to present design options, reflect community feedback to-date, and further identify community priorities and concerns. Notice of the open house was sent to the adjacent neighborhoods, downtown Bellevue, and other stakeholders. Visit the [project website](#) to view the material presented at the open house and a more detailed version of this summary.

Participation

In-Person Open House:

June 15, 2016, 5 – 7 p.m.

- 13 sign-ins
- 20-25 total attendees
- Five individuals completed comment forms

Online Open House:

June 15 – July 15, 2016

- 184 unique visitors
- 251 sessions (times the website was accessed)
- Approximately 50 individuals responded to at least one of the survey questions

Feedback overview

Design and aesthetics: When asked about project design, participants favored features that accentuate the natural beauty of the corridor and include vegetation. Participants most supported wall treatments and plantings, although lighting and public art also received support. Several participants were concerned about light pollution and its impact to wildlife. Feedback was mixed regarding art; natural treatments were favored over brightly colored, trendy features.

Corridor width and project length: Participants supported improvements to traffic flow, but strongly opposed private property impacts. Many also questioned the need for the project, noting that the impacts likely outweighed the potential benefits. Participants supported the inclusion of a shoulder, but many thought other elements (e.g., sidewalk) were unnecessary or redundant with existing bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

Criteria: Participants viewed neighborhood noise impacts and traffic flow improvements as the most important design criteria. Most proposed criteria were deemed important, with the exception of accommodating pedestrians and bicycles on the west side of Bellevue Way.

Additional feedback: Additional comments reflected the public's concern about private property and neighborhood traffic impacts. There were several requests to coordinate construction on Bellevue Way SE with Sound Transit to minimize construction impacts. While some expressed support for the project, many others were skeptical that the project would decrease travel times and improve transit reliability. Comments also reiterated the need for noise mitigation, increased public awareness of the project, and protecting the corridor's natural surroundings like the Mercer Slough.